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MH council to review data before meeting in person

by SUE TIFFIN Editor

The following are brief reports of items discussed during a March 31 virtual meeting of Minden Hills council.

Minden Hills council plans to meet in person on April 28 for the first time since the pandemic began, but only after revisiting that decision a week prior to see what the sixth wave situation looks like at that time.

CAO/clerk Trisha McKibbin suggested a hybrid approach to meeting, with council and clerks in council chambers, while department heads presented reports via Zoom and the public and media attended virtually. She suggested April 28, the first meeting date after provincial restrictions are lifted.

Councillor Ron Nesbitt asked if masks would be required. McKibbin replied they can be worn but are not mandatory. She added that desks would be separated from each

"In public I still wear a mask," said Nesbitt, noting his glasses fog up when he wears one. "But in here, I wouldn't want to."

see COUNCIL page 2



Springtime stroll

Jane Wentzel of Marmora and Maureen Bavington of Bowmanville walk alongside the Gull River twice a day with Darcy Girl, a bichon shih tzu, when they're visiting Wentzel's family in Minden, as they did on April 2. Though weather last week resulted in two inclement weather days for students, the sun shone on Saturday prompting many residents to be out walking, spring cleaning or keeping busy in the sugar bush. /SUE TIFFIN Staff

'Lessons learned' prior to second year of septic program

by SUE TIFFIN

Editor

WSP Canada Inc., the contractor hired to conduct the Minden Hills septic re-inspection program, is preparing to launch the 2022 program but has been asked by council for better communication after the first year of the program proved frustrating for council, township staff and residents.

At the March 31 meeting of council, held virtually, senior technologist Brandon Aubin and senior rural development engineer Robert

Passmore spoke to a lengthy 100-page report to council on the 2021 program.

Last year between May and September, WSP inspected 1,072 systems on 812 properties, with eight systems being inspected by third parties. Of those systems, 140 were 40

see SEPTIC page 2



MINDEN SUBARU



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Council will revisit meeting decision on April 20

from page 1

Councillor Bob Carter said, "as much as political decisions would like to change the world," each of the Canadian COVID-19 waves have followed those in the UK and Europe by about three or four weeks, and currently surges due to the latest variant were happening there. He said it was likely that would happen again.

"I would defer to the scientists here as opposed to the politicians and say it's too early," he said. "I would like to see what happens at the end of this fifth wave to find out how safe it would be to be meeting, particularly where some people aren't wearing masks ... I'm not against going back, I want to get back, I long to get back, but I'm thinking that April 28 is too early."

Councillor Lisa Schell said she respected Carter's position but disagreed.

"I feel completely the opposite," she said.
"The fact that we can go to restaurants, we go out in public, we go shopping, everything now, and everybody else is going back into meetings, I'm fully prepared to return to in-

person meetings. With the respect of having our desks separated, I'm fine with that, but I think by the end of April, that's more than enough time."

Mayor Brent Devolin said he was presenting a "compromise," acknowledging that council is meeting virtually again on April 14, and that council plan to meet in-person on April 28 but revisit the decision on the 14th to see what the "landscape" looks like and whether it should be paused and deferred into May. Schell said the 14th might be too soon to know what the provincial situation looks like, and recommended reviewing the decision during a special meeting being held April 20.

"I don't think it's a compromise in any way," said Carter. "It just makes sense. We'll decide on the 20th what we're going to do."

"I would call it a compromise because I think we're going to live with this forever and at a certain point we have to rip the Band-Aid off," said Devolin. He said he was happy to support revisiting the decision on the 20th

Residential winter sand challenges

Carter asked director of public works Jeff Sisson about the sand available to township residents, which is located in the parking lot of the Minden Curling Club during the winter months. Sisson's report to council noted sand had been dropped there on February 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 and March 7, and Carter asked about the quantity of sand being used.

Sisson said approximately 10 dump truck loads were deposited there in a week- about 100 tonnes that week he estimated - while other times it could be a load full or a loader bucket's amount.

"It is quite substantial the amount of sand we're using there," he said.

McKibbon said there would be a report brought back to council on the sand program.

"I think this year we had a very large amount of sand at a very high cost, so we need to circle back to this and have a discussion about what services we want to deliver and how we want to deliver them," she said.

"If people were taking their five gallon buckets, that works out to about 2,600 buckets of sand and I'll have to admit, if there were 2,600 people show up to each take a bucket, there would have been line-ups that went down Park Street and onto Bobcaygeon Road, so I have a feeling some people are taking a little more than their five gallon bucket," said Carter.

Nesbitt asked if signs could be put up to remind plow companies to not use the sand, which is intended for individuals. Devolin said that had been done but with each year there was "less and less compliance."

Councillor Pam Sayne said she had heard suggestions that it be set up at waste facilities so usage could be monitored, but noted approval to do that through the ministry of environment would take months or years.

A report will come to council at an upcoming meeting.

Manager of Waste

Facilities introduced

Nikki Payne, attending council on her fourth day of work with Minden Hills township, was welcomed as the new manager of waste facilities.

Septic program needs better communication

from page 1

years or older, 377 were between 20 and 39 years old, 223 were between 10 and 19 years old and 65 were less than 10 years old. In total, 34 properties were considered high risk, 418 were considered medium risk and 620 were determined to be low risk.

At the end of the 2021 season, last October WSP Canada Inc. representatives told council their company's staff departures, an unexpected phone system change, a larger volume of calls and emails, and homeowner changes were the reasons for program delays and the frustration some residents had with the program.

Last week, Mayor Brent Devolin asked about lessons learned from the first season that will be applied to the second year.

Aubin noted there had been "growing pains" in the first year of the program, but further education for property owners on the benefit of the inspections and effective communication with council – as well as within WSP itself - were a focus.

Devolin said communication was "the elephant in the room," and said feedback to staff "in a timely fashion" was most important. Councillor Bob Carter asked if assessment was being done for adequacy of size of the septic system for the property.

The representatives said inspectors were looking for the sizing of the septic tanks but confirming it's the right size for the building or occupants was not included in the Minden Hills program.

"We have lots of situations where people have added on to their building or bunkies or whatever and we should at least note it," said Carter.

Carter then asked about the 162 "not completes," from last year's inspections, those being properties requiring inspection that haven't been inspected yet due to scheduling conflicts or non-response from property owners.

"One of my fears is that there's people in there hiding," said Carter. "In other words, I've heard from other jurisdictions where people will do everything they can to prevent the inspection from taking place because they've got a woefully inadequate system. That's certainly part of the goal here, to try to make sure those woefully inadequate systems are captured and so our lakes aren't damaged even further."

He said "in no way, shape or form," should
those properties not be seen by the end of this
calendar vear

As the program began in Councillor Pam Sayne's ward, she said she received the most calls about it.

"I was astounded at how many referrals there were to go back to the municipality, because part of the reason we decided to contract this out instead of bringing it in to staff was it would take less pressure off of our building department to have this outsourced," she said.

Sayne said she doesn't want people who are doing regular inspections and pump outs as required to be paying twice – once for their regular maintenance and once for inspection – and noted debate about how often the septic systems should be pumped, requesting that new research be taken into consideration as well as new technology that measures sludge and scum by laser.

She too, expressed disappointment in communication mishaps, reporting that residents were not getting calls back promptly or at all, and that letters that said residents had 30 days to correct a faulty system, in the middle of winter, were not realistic.

"It's good to get the conversation going, but I'd like to see some improvements if we're going to continue this system," she said

Colin McKnight, the township's chief building official, said new staff members both at the township and with WSP would meet to go forward to address issues.

"For me the biggest thing was obviously the call backs, people not getting returned calls and scheduling issues," he said. "I don't know how many calls I had but there were probably thousands - not hundreds - last year, so that was the biggest concern I heard, was people not getting back to them and scheduling issues."

"I think the key is the communication piece, the internal communication between WSP and the municipality, and both the communication from WSP and the municipality out to the public," said Trisha McKibbin, CAO/clerk. "I certainly think, lessons learned this first year, and we know what we need to undertake in the second year of the program."

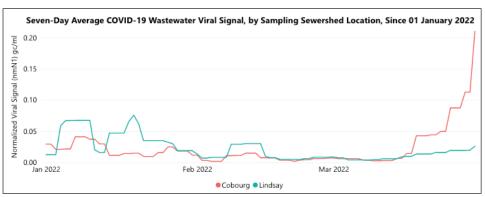
As previously reported, properties are scheduled to be inspected during a phased, five-year period. The first zone, where septic system inspections began last year, included Gull and Moore lakes and surrounding areas south of Minden.

WSP Canada Inc. was also used by the Township of Algonquin Highlands and the Municipality of Dysart et al for their programs. The full 2021 report is available online at mindenhills.civicweb.net.

County	Municipality	Active cases (current)	Total 2022 cases	Rate	Non-outbreak cases (cumulative)	Outbreak cases (cumulative)	Hospitalization s (cumulative)	Deaths (cumulative)
Haliburton	Algonquin Highlands	0	17	671.67	17	0	1	0
Haliburton	Dysart et al	4	92	1348.97	78	14	4	0
Haliburton	Highlands East	1	29	824.57	26	3	0	0
Haliburton	Minden Hills	3	73	1103.22	62	11	0	0
Kawartha Lakes	Kawartha Lakes	57	1999	2456.74	1,257	742	44	18
Northumberland	Alnwick/Haldimand	0	178	2262.90	159	19	4	2
Northumberland	Brighton	12	224	1770.05	203	21	9	2
Northumberland	Cobourg	23	416	2040.62	278	138	8	1
Northumberland	Cramahe	3	121	1873.94	107	14	7	1
Northumberland	Hamilton Township	9	172	1404.20	156	16	4	0
Northumberland	Port Hope	5	265	1522.55	181	84	4	1
Northumberland	Trent Hills	14	403	3017.14	211	192	9	4
Total HKPRDHU	All Municipalities	131	3989	2085.99	2,735	1,254	94	29

Slight uptick in community case count

Five new cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in Haliburton County, while 38 new cases were identified in City of Kawartha Lakes and 39 in Northumberland County, according to an April 4 update on the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District health unit website. The health unit reminds the public that because access to publicly-funded PCR testing is no longer available, as of Dec. 2021, to the majority of residents, the number of lab-confirmed cases of COVID-19 is an underestimate of the true number of COVID-19 infections in the community. / Screenshot from HKPRD dashboard



Info from the Ontario Wastewater Surveillance Initiative Data and Vizualization Hub shows the seven-day average COVID-19 wastewater viral signal, by sampling sewershed locations in Cobourg and Lindsay, since Jan. 1 of this year. The wastewater program analyses virus shedding among residents to estimate the burden of COVID-19 in the community, and serves as a secondary indicator for retrospective and current COVID-19 prevalence in the community. /April 4 screenshot from www.hkpr.on.ca

Health care coalition spreading anti-privatization message

by STEPHEN PETRICK

Special to the Times

Signs saying "Don't Privatize our Public Health Care" will likely pop up on some Haliburton County lawns, ahead of the June 2 Ontario election.

The signs are the work of the Ontario Health Coalition and part of a campaign to advocate for higher care standards, particularly in long-term care homes, which are sometimes privately run and can even be owned by publicly-traded

They were unveiled during a virtual summit the coalition held for Kawartha Lakes, Haliburton and Peterborough residents on March 31. Guest speakers argued the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the ineffectiveness of private long-term care homes and the province's overall inability to care for its most elderly residents.

Lead speaker Natalie Mehra, the executive director of the Ontario Health Coalition, opened the meeting by sharing the story of "Margaret," a resident who died lonely and in pain in an understaffed long-term care home, where she wasn't receiving the care that her family – and taxpayers – paid for.

"Margaret didn't die of COVID-19, she died of neglect," Mehra said. "She joins 4,500 people who have died in Ontario long-term care homes of COVID alone ... That doesn't count the thousands of others who died of neglect, died of dehydration, starvation, loneliness and depression."

"It's like 20 airlines just fell out of the sky and everyone in them died," she said. "You would think there would be fundamental change at that point. You would think the government would turn every stone to increase staffing in longterm care homes. But that has not happened. If anything, the staffing has decreased."

Although the coalition says it's not affiliated with one particular party, it has an anti-Conservative bent. The meeting was advertised as a call to stop "(Premier) Doug Ford's

Long-term care has been a thorny issue during Ford's term as premier. After the Canadian Forces were called in to help five Ontario long-term care homes struggling to care for residents in the first wave of the pandemic, the military issued a damning report in May 2020, which said homes were understaffed and short on supplies, which was leading to serious neglect.

The report led to calls for more government oversight and higher standards in long-term care homes. It also led to more grassroots campaigns to advocate for publicly run homes, which advocates say would be more driven by meeting care standards than profit. The Haliburton-City of Kawartha Lakes Long-Term Care Coalition, a partner in the





Signs created by members of the Ontario **Health Coalition** advocating for higher care standards will likely pop up on some Haliburton County lawns ahead of the June 2 Ontario election. /Submitted by the Haliburton **Highlands LTC** Coalition

summit, was also born out of those concerns. The coalition has recently been re-named as the Haliburton Highlands LTC Coalition.

Zac Miller, another organizer of the summit, said that 100 signs are about to go out to the community. Members of the meeting also spoke about the need to keep speaking about the issue and ensure more media attention is given to longterm care ahead of the election.

Meeting participants also debated about how to make headway in a very pro-Conservative riding.

One participant asked how local politicians, MP Jamie Schmale and MPP Laurie Scott, might respond to concerns being raised. Bonnie Roe, the lead member of the Haliburton Highlands LTC Coalition, says both Schmale

and Scott have been good about meeting with the advocates and hearing their concerns, but it's hard to sense how much good the meetings have done.

When speaking about Scott, Roe said, "the difficulty is she touts the Conservative line. You feel it's futile at times, but you feel you have to keep pushing the envelope.'

For more information on the Haliburton Highlands LTC Coalition email Roe at bonnieroe08@gmail.com or call 705-457-6579.

CORRECTION:

In Fulfilling a dream and making a community proud, published in the March 30 edition, Melanie Walter was the second woman in solo category coached by Jane Symons to achieve a provincial berth.

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(VIRTUAL) COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted virtually via web conference meetings, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

> April 14 – Regular Council Meeting April 28 – Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/ or by using the direct link provided in the notice. Meeting agendas are not displayed during the meeting, please download by visiting our website at www.mindenhills. ca/council/. Please note the live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while Council is in session.

DAYTIME BURNING REMINDER

Reminder that you will need a burn permit for daytime burning, 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM from April 1st to October 31st. A burn permit is issued for the season at a cost of \$50.00. For more information contact the Fire Department at 705-286-1202.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We are currently recruiting for the following positions within the Township:

- Community Services Casual Operator Summer Students in Parks
- Summer Students at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre
 - Student Recreation Attendant Building Inspector/MLEO

Please email sprentice@mindenhills.ca or visit www.mindenhills.ca/employment-opportunities/ for more information.

Reminder that the discharging of fireworks requires a permit within the Township of Minden Hills. Contact the Fire Department for a fireworks permit prior to the ignition of fireworks at 705-286-1202.

FIREWORKS PERMIT REMINDER

ARE YOU ON THE VOTERS' LIST FOR THE 2022 MUNICIPAL AND SCHOOL BOARD **ELECTIONS?**

Township of Minden Hills residents can find out whether they're on the voter's list for the upcoming municipal and school board elections at voterlookup.ca.

voterlookup.ca is an online service used to collect and confirm information that will be used in the preparation of the final Voters' Lists across Ontario. You can also change your school support for electoral purposes and add names to your property address. If you do not have access to the internet, please visit the Administration Office, Clerks Department, 7 Milne St., Minden. If you need support, please call 1-866-296-6722.





FOCA awards HHLPOA initiative

by SUE TIFFIN

Editor

Each year, the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations honours the accomplishments of lake associations in the categories of environmental stewardship, land use planning initiatives, research and education, political involvement or other similar innovations with achievement awards.

In March, FOCA awarded the Halls and Hawk Lakes Property Owners Association with an honourable mention for their new youth and adult events, increased membership – from 100 in 2018 to over 200 last year – and a book created to celebrate their 75 years.

"I want folks in the area to feel proud," said Joan Hamilton, HHLPOA director and curator of the *Lure of the Lakes* book. "There are close to 600 members in FOCA, and we're hitting close to the top. Second from the top, I think, is pretty good."

FOCA, said Hamilton, was helpful in pointing her in the right direction when she began creating content for the lake association's website in 2020, in planning for the 75th anniversary in 2021. The website and digital newsletters have helped the association communicate with members as well as the broader community.

"The whole pandemic actually provided us with a couple of really good changes," said Hamilton. "The website being the first, the digital newsletter following up on that. But then we couldn't do an annual general meeting in person. Like so many other activities, we had to pivot. So we went to a virtual AGM on Zoom and it was actually quite well attended - maybe because people didn't have things to do, I don't know - but it was so well attended we had no hesitation to do a second

one in 2021 when it was apparent we couldn't gather."

The second annual general meeting to be held virtually was also a great success.

"And that has now led us to realize, people do not want to spend their cottage time, if they're only coming up on the weekend, they don't want to go to a meeting and not use the time with their family or on the dock," said Hamilton. "So now our annual general meetings will be in the middle of the week prior to cottage season starting."

Hamilton said at those meetings, the association plans on hosting an 'Ask the Expert' series they'll call Cottage Chats. The first detailed some of the history of the area [see story on this page], the next will focus on native plants and gardens with a local master gardener.

And while the online component is helping to bring people virtually to the area, the association is making long lasting connections offline.

The *Lure of the Lakes* book created for the 75th anniversary began as a feature called Cottage Tales, telling the story of homes and cottages on the lake. FOCA was pivotal, Hamilton said, in helping her connect with others, and so she learned from what Canning Lake residents had done in creating a book of the history of that lake.

"We sold 400 copies, and now it's into its second printing," said Hamilton. "We did it in about two-and-a-half-months. That's mind boggling, isn't it?"

The HHLPOA has an annual photo contest for their calendar, floating markets and painting sessions, and added activities to their regatta: a kid's rock bass derby, a baker's contest and a scavenger hunt by boat. A photo laureate will be named, with a two-year commitment on the part of the photographer to help gather photos so that as Hamilton says, "what did it look like in 2022, so when they celebrate another 50 years, or 75 years, we'll have this recorded." All of this, said Hamilton, led to the award, and the increased awareness and membership.

"The challenge now of course is not just to continue at that level, but we want to up it even more," said Hamilton. "We're not satisfied with 200 members, we want to get to at least 225 or 250."

Similar to a reflection area at Canning Lake, a spot called Memory Lookout was installed on Big Hawk Lake, in part to commemorate the lives lost in a 1976 bridge collapse. Now area families are adding memorial plaques, some for those who first purchased on the lake, and the association plans to have a pollinator garden planted at the spot.

"We're hoping it will be a place of serenity, calmness, and hopefully many people will come by there and feel the goodness that we hope comes from it," said Hamilton.

"I think all lake associations need to set aside a space to sit and reflect, look back on your memories," she said. "We have a mission statement of preserve and enhance. It does both – preserving our past and hopefully enhancing it, too."

The Lake Bernard Property Owners' Association won the 2021 FOCA Achievement Award. Honourable mentions were also awarded to the Lake St. Peter Property Owners Association, the Golden Lake and Bonnechere River Property Owners Association and the Loon and Turtle Lakes Cottage Association.

For more information about the Halls and Hawk Lakes Property Owners Association, visit hallshawklakes.ca. For more information about the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations visit foca.on.ca.



This photo was taken from Camp Kawabi on Big Hawk Lake when Ron Perry was the owner, sometime between the mid-1950s and early 1970s. /Photo credit: The Perry Family

Cottage chat shares a look at early settler life

by SUE TIFFIN Editor

A Cottage Chat session gave residents – both seasonal and permanent – a chance to ask historians questions about the origin of lake names, early life in Stanhope, and local legends. The virtual meeting was organized by the Halls and Hawk Lakes Property Owners Association and brought panelists Carol Moffatt, Adele Espina and Joan Hamilton together to share known, likely, and sometimes controversial stories – with plenty of fun facts added to share around the lake this summer.

Moffatt spoke to the area known as "wastelands," in the mid-1800s, where land in 100-acre tracts was given to those who had served the country, or their widows. In the 1840s and 1850s, surveyors established 13 colonization roads to generate settlements but the settlement did not occur quickly. The government then began giving away land to settlers who would maintain it, establishing the Free Grants and Homestead Act of 1868 with specific rules, including that to obtain ownership of land, settlers would have to clear 15

acres, cultivate it, build a small home and live continually in it for five years. Moffatt, who has a strong passion for local heritage, lives in one of those original log homes now.

"When the trees were gone after the logging, the farmers tried to farm but there was no farming – it was terrible here," said Moffatt. "The bottom line is, people came here with this great promise of farming and free land and this great new life, and farming was terrible. For those who did stay and eke out a living, they are the people to whom we owe a debt of gratitude for having created the land we all love today."

Hamilton, who wrote and edited the *Lure of the Lakes* book chronicling the history of Halls and Hawk Lakes, spoke to some of the settlers known at the time. These include James and Sarah Welch, who were married in 1883 and had 10 children, losing two in infancy and childhood, and two sons to the First World War.

"It was a tough life for the Welches trying to raise a family," she said. "They did whatever they had to do."

The Welch homestead became a sort of headquarters for people travelling through the area, and the Welches sold meat to lumber camps – James ran a butcher shop in Minden for some time – and also ran the post office for 35 years.

Arthur Oliver came to the area in 1907. Moffatt said the

Oliver farm is "just around the corner," from her, and she was able to meet Mary Oliver in 1991.

"Her life was fascinating, and it was a real testament to the tenacity of people who we needed to form the land and live a life here," she said.

Mary came to the area as a war bride, and despite not knowing the area, the life, or "a single soul except her husband," Moffatt said she lived her entire life – living to 104 years of age - in the area. A bay and a lane are named for Mary and her family.

Together, the panelists spoke to the logging industry – still a primary economic driver in Haliburton County – the Hawk Lake log chute, the old mill and deaths that occurred there, and the creation of Peterson Road, now Highway 118, – for \$34,000 – and Bobcaygeon Road – for \$28,296 – in 1862.

HHLPOA president Peter Dadzis spoke to the success of the virtual event, which was attended by about two dozen people, and the rich heritage of the area shared by the panelists.

For more information on the history of Algonquin Highlands visit heritagemaps algonquin.com and algonquinhighlands.ca/genealogy.

For more information on this chat or upcoming chats, visit www.hallshawklakes.ca.

Gradual freshet, but residents reminded to be prepared

by SUE TIFFIN

Editor

With warmer weather comes the spring thaw, or freshet, as snow and ice accumulated over the winter season melts into rivers, lakes and streams.

Typically throughout central Ontario, the freshet occurs between mid-March to the end of April, lasting several weeks on larger river systems and watersheds, and with environmental factors such as extreme temperatures and more frequent severe storm/rain events impacting the length and severity of the spring freshet each year.

"Currently, this year's freshet has been gradual with multiple freeze and thaw events as a result of substantial temperature fluctuations and nominal precipitation events,' said Jeff Wiltshire, resource management co-ordinator, Peterborough district, for the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry.

Across the Burnt River and Gull River watersheds, Wiltshire said the last few years were indicative of an average spring freshet, but it is difficult to predict how the freshet will "play out in any year," depending on the frequency and severity of storm events such as heavy rain, and significant spikes in daytime temperature highs and overnight lows that remain above freezing.

"In the upper reaches of our watersheds, substantial snowpack remains, which has yet to melt," he said. "As we progress into April the potential for high double-digit temperatures and significant rain events increases. As with any freshet, conditions can change quickly, and it is important to be prepared."

Kev factors considered during a freshet, said Wiltshire, are snowpack, the snow water equivalent in a snowpack (which describes the amount of liquid water in the snowpack that would be formed if it were completely melted), temperatures, rainfall and frozen or unfrozen ground conditions and characteristics of the watershed. The unknown element, he said, is potential for a storm event or combination of events to impact the rate at which the freshet occurs and exacerbate those elements.

"Floods are typically caused by melting snow, ice jams, high lake levels, heavy rains and thunderstorms," said Wiltshire. "They can happen at any time of year in urban and rural areas. It is important for residents to be prepared especially during the spring

Creating a 72-hour emergency preparedness plan and kit, testing sump pumps regularly, putting weather protection sealant around basement windows and ground-level doors, extending downspouts at least two

metres from the home to move water away from the building and regularly maintaining water drainage systems such as weeping tile, culverts and ditches are included in the preparation guidance offered by Emergency Management Ontario.

Visit ontario.ca/page/floods for further information on how to prepare for a flood, what to do in the event of a flood and to access links to flood forecasting and warning information.



Sunny Saturday

Emma Zabloski and Geoff Cross took in Saturday's mild weather with a stroll along the Gull River on the afternoon of April 2. /SUE TIFFIN Staff





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Making history

SUE TIFFIN

Editor

used online to describe an extremely engrossing and time-consuming topic, and it is a phrase I use often with Adele Espina. Whether she's delighting me with the topics she pursues for her much-loved column [See Page 13] in this paper, answering questions as my go-to for background information that I can't find online like she can, or - upon hearing me share stories of my family's history - digging deeper and showing me documents I've never seen, Adele is – as many of you know - a local treasure. She easily entices me to fall down rabbit holes in pursuit of fascinating facts and bits and pieces of historical trivia that help

me to better understand how or why something happened, or simply just be completely entertained by the hot gossip of days gone by.

Adele is one of many people in this community who care very much about local history, and work diligently - often as volunteers - to uncover answers, make connections

and share what they can find so that others can know more.

Last week, I was able to tune in to the Halls and Hawk Lakes Property Owners Association Cottage Chat discussion, where Adele spoke to the resources available to learn more about the history of Algonquin Highlands.

The work done on the Algonquin Highlands Heritage Map Project by volunteers, in the Oxtongue Lake area, the Dorset Museum and the Stanhope Museum, and the Settlers of Algonquin Highlands family tree project created by seniors in the Oxtongue Lake area, Dorset village area and Stanhope township is truly remarkable - and though it is and might always be a work in progress, the information available there now is a goldmine for anyone looking for personal history, information about the area, or following

"RABBIT HOLE" is a phrase a research trail that has led from somewhere else. (Imagine looking for an ancestor's gravestone from no matter where you are and finding a recent photo of it at the click of a mouse). That it's available online, free of charge, and with quick responses from those who have gathered this information in one place makes it priceless.

Take some time, no matter where you live, to visit the Algonquin Highlands Heritage Map project at heritagemapsalgonquin.com, for information on historical sites, local stories, settlers, veterans and a new feature on local lakes and their history. The Settlers of Algonquin Highlands family tree project at

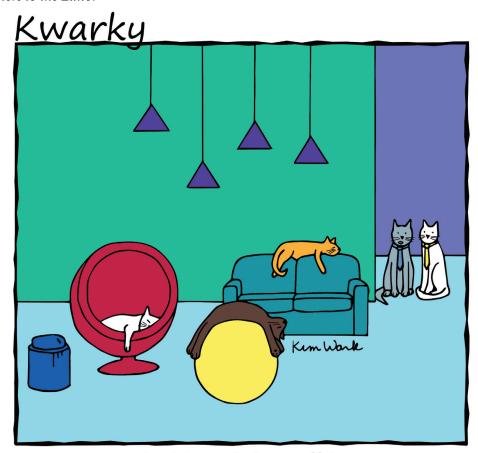
> algonquinhighlands. ca/genealogy is a genealogical compilation of the area's earliest settlers and their descendants, complete with images, newspaper clippings and gravestone images, of settlers, and their descendants as well.

Both sites were made possible with a New Horizons for Seniors grant

awarded to the township of Algonquin Highlands. Additionally, the Stanhope Museum Facebook page features the handwritten Wilfred Mason daily farm diaries, and is easy to follow through the work of Pam Hewitt-Osborne, a Stanhope Museum committee member, who has been transcribing the diaries for more than three years.

It's commendable that the township has cared so much about preserving this history, and moving forward to record more, including Indigenous history in the area. A thank you to the passionate volunteers – including the indefatigable Norma Goodger - who are working to record history for us now and others to come in the future.

Pour a coffee, clear your schedule of a few hours, and join others down the rabbit hole by visiting those sites to



"We had hoped the staff lounge would inspire more productivity."

In praise of multi-tools

THIS MORNING I required a needle-nosed plier to pull a small finishing nail out of a wall. I almost went to my basement to get one when I remembered that I had a multitool in a pack sitting beside my desk. For those who do not know, a multi-tool is a pocket-sized unit that holds tools such as screwdrivers, knife, pliers, tiny saw, wire cutters, bottle opener, can opener, file and more. These fold into the handle.

Multi-tools are popular among outdoors enthusiasts, who buy them in case they are forced one day to spontaneously build a log cabin or a boat.

In any case, I rummaged through the pack and pulled out my multi-tool. Then I deployed the needle-nosed pliers, one of its 10 tools, and squeezed the pliers it tightly on the head of the finishing nail and pulled.

Unfortunately, the pliers slipped off the nail. And, because I gripped the handle very tightly to hold

onto the head of the nail, when it slipped off the pliers closed completely, quickly and with a lot of force, which caused the inside edges of the handle to come together entirely and pinch the meaty part of the palm – hard.

The verbalization I resorted to is not suitable for print.

Let's just say it hurt and I have a pinchbruise on the palm of my hand to prove it. I wouldn't normally write about this, but it occurred to me that almost every outdoorsperson I know has had a similar experience.

I blame myself. I should have known going in. This happens every time I use those pliers. But we use our multi-tools so infrequently that their use can be likened to childbirth. If we remembered how painful if was, we wouldn't do it

The multi-tool's popularity has always confounded me anyhow. I mean, how is it that a group of people who are going out into the field to avoid working with tools can be convinced to carry a miniature workshop with them?

To be honest, there isn't a tool on mine that can even come close to doing better than the real thing. I would even try to saw a dowel with the 3-inch saw on

my multi-tool. Moreover, the ruler is only three inches long – and there is nothing in the angler's or hunter's world that small. The folding blade is good, but again, I carry a better knife afield. And using the multi-tool knife requires me to grip the handle of death, often with similar results. The bottle opener, can opener and short screwdrivers



might work, though I don't know anyone who has tested this theory. Likewise with the file, (See handle issue.)

The point I am trying to make is that if I ever had to do – God forbid – any work in the field that required tools, I'd find a different activity. Or bring a toolbox

The only reason I can think of as to why they are so popular is that they serve to remind us of what we could be doing if we were at home. Which makes being out there all the sweeter.

I know they're not supposed to take the place of real tools. They are designed for emergency use. Then, they will do in a pinch.



STEVE GALEA Beyond 35

INOTHERWORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Waiting for the robins

OBINS ARE harbingers of spring, which officially arrived almost three weeks ago. So where is the spring weather, and where are the

It's April, the daffodil month, and winter still refuses to loosen its headlock on much of the country.

Out my front window I see a lake with an ice cover seemingly determined to become permanent. A winter breeze scours it before climbing the shoreline embankment to fondle my house. Its icy fingers probe the smallest cracks and crannies and I feed the woodstove another log from the seriously diminished woodpile.

The weather forecasters offer little relief. They predict small shots of sun



JIM POLING SR. From Shaman's Rock

and warmth interspersed with bursts of abnormal cold and wet throughout April. We are getting one of those small warmer shots this week, but no real, sustained spring warmth is expected until May.

The winter-like conditions don't mean we won't be seeing robins for a while. There is growing evidence that more robins are staying in northern regions dur-

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology says robins now are wintering in every U.S. state except Hawaii and every Canadian southern provincial area.

Also, data from feeder watch programs show robin visitation rates in northern Canada rising steadily. Average winter flock sizes have been increasing as well.

Program FeederWatch, where people count birds in their yards and post results online, reported robins at 59 per cent of Ontario sites during the 2020-21 winter. That compares with 27 per cent 1989, the project's first year.

There is no solid evidence of why more robins are wintering in the north. One theory is simply that winters are becoming milder.

What we do know is robins are not afraid of winter weather. They maintain a body temperature of 40 Celsius no matter how cold it is. They shiver to generate body heat and fluff their feathers as a shield against cold and snow.

They can handle winter, but what they can't handle is lack of staple foods that become unavailable in winter. Worms, bugs and other little invertebrates favoured by robins disappear when the cold arrives and snow covers the

Many thousands of robins continue to migrate south in winter, but researchers are discovering that some are staying behind and surviving by changing their diet. They turn to summer leftovers – berries, currents and other small fruits left on vines, shrubs and trees long after summer showers have become snow storms.

Berries and other small fruits are not something we think about during winter. But if you go looking, you'll find berries on trees and shrubs such as crab apple, juniper, hawthorn, yew, mountain ash, chokecherry and bearberry.

Seeds also are plentiful in winter but robins don't digest seeds well and don't have bills designed for cracking. That's why they don't often visit bird

Robins that stay north in winter are not seen as frequently as they are in summer. That's because berries and other winter fruits are not abundant and the birds have to move about to find them.

Robins are not just symbols of spring, they represent different signs in different cultures - everything from the promise of spring, to the threat of storms

Many Indigenous people have viewed the robin as a spiritual bird, a symbol of hope and rebirth and a sign of love and good family life. Some have seen robins as spirit guides helping them to understand visions.

Robin symbolism is found throughout Christianity. There is one story, wrongly attributed to the Bible, which tells of a little bird plucking a thorn from Christ's forehead when he was being crucified. A drop of Christ's blood fell on the bird's breast, staining it red. That bird became the red-breasted

Mother Teresa, the missionary named Saint Teresa of Calcutta by the Catholic Church, related that legend in her 1977 book *No Greater Love*.

"Each of us should try and be that bird – the little robin," she wrote. "When we see someone in pain, we must ask ourselves: What can I do to give them comfort?"

Whatever the symbolization, we'll soon be seeing robins hunting bugs and worms on grassy patches and we'll know that a long, tough winter finally has given way to summer sunshine and warmth.



Playground for the ants. /SUE TIFFIN Staff

The wall

WATCHED AN interesting video by Katy Bowman (www.nutritiousmovement.com) that involved doing Warrior 2 pose (it's like a side lunge with your arms extended out to the sides) at the wall. The wall was used as a measurement tool. In the video, Katy Bowman gets into the yoga pose with the heel of one foot and the outside of the other foot close to the

wall. The next part is having both sides of the buttock touching the wall. From there she assesses how many other body parts can touch the wall while she's in this pose. If you're up to it, give this pose a try. Contact points are the buttock/ hips, the bent knee, both shoulder blades, rib cage, both wrists and the back of the head.

The beauty of this exercise is that it demonstrates how all of your parts move relative to one another. Sadly, our lives are all about sitting. That involves a bend at the hips, a bend at the knees and arms extended. As a result we have tight muscles through the hips and legs. We also have rounded backs with shoulders that are hunched forward. Chances are that you'll be able to touch the wall with some of the parts but not all of them. The thing I loved was that this assessment reveals the truth. There's no possible way to twist or manipulate your body to make it all work. If your knee doesn't touch and you attempt to get it to touch chances are that your hip comes off the wall.

Another option to test things out is to stand with your back at the wall. Ensure your heels are touching the wall (shoeless is best). What else is touching the wall? I can get my buttock and the back of my head to touch the wall but my shoulder blades barely touch without a whole lot of effort. This

isn't surprising because my massage therapist has already addressed this issue of upper back tightness on several occasions. I've been working on increasing the mobility of my upper back with various exercises. Now I can use the wall as a measurement tool.

All movement is beneficial but exercising in a way that is further strengthening already tight muscles may actually

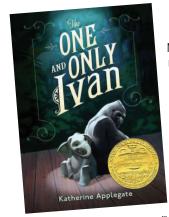
be causing harm that could lead to injury. Doing this type of measurement reveals the sticky points (those points in our bodies that do not move well) in our bodies that need attention. It couldn't be any easier. There's usually a wall close by.

Something to think about.

Laurie Sweig is a certified personal fitness trainer and spinning instructor. She owns and operates The Point for Fitness. She can be reached at laurie@thepointforfitness.com.



HCPL's Jr. Book of the Month - April



Ivan is a silverback gorilla living at the Exit 8 Big Top Mall and Video Arcade. The small domain of concrete and metal has been his home for the last 27 years, and he has grown accustomed to humans watching him through the glass. He rarely misses his life in the jungle, hardly ever tninks about it at all.

Instead, Ivan thinks about TV shows. And about his friends Stella, an elderly elephant, and Bob, a stray dog. While the others perform, Ivan mostly thinks about art. How to capture the taste of a mango, or the sound of leaves with color and a well-placed line.

When Ruby, a kidnapped baby elephant, arrives at the Mall, everything changes. She makes Ivan see their "home" - and his own art - through new eyes.

Based on a heart-wrenching true story, Katherine Applegate blends humor and poignancy to create Ivan's unforgettable first-person narration of friendship, art, and hope. Check it out from Haliburton County Public Library today.



Attendees gather for a talk by artist Alex Jack on April 2 at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery. /Photos by Jerelyn Craden

Full house for artist Alex Jack at Agnes Jamieson Gallery

by JERELYN CRADEN Special to the Times

A bright, sunny, spring day matched the enthusiasm and attendance for the landscape artist Alex Jack's exhibit and artist talk, Drawing in Landscape, at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery (AJG) on Saturday, April 2. All seats were taken in the Welch room after attendees had arrived early to take in Jack's impressive body of work, with 40 pieces on display, then buzzed in anticipation of his 20-minute talk.

AJG relief staff, Val Wallin and Nadine Papp, opened with remarks about the gallery's rich history and its collection of more than 100 works by André Lapine (1866-1952), one of Canada's foremost artists. Heartfelt thanks were given for the exemplary work of former curator, Laurie Carmount. Then, Jack took to the podium and began.

"To me, one of the great attractions of drawing is it's a very unstable medium. It's a very fluid medium changing very, very quickly and that can go along with the change of response that I hadn't experienced when I'm out in nature," Jack said. "I do find I get the best results when I approach things without having any plan. Things will happen. Taking the risk that it's going to be an outright failure is the only way to get something good in my experience."

Jack explained that when he is outside in nature he commits to starting and finishing a drawing.

"I can't remember the last time I did any reworking in the studio, but some of the larger ones require it."

Sometimes he will do a drawing in "a very rough manner," bring it back to his studio and, "see if there's enough in it to sustain my interest to work it on a larger scale."

Creating something good has proven to be far better than that for Jack, whose drawings dating from 1975 to 2021 line the walls of the AJG, drawing much praise from visitors. In fact, one of the questions asked by an audience member was, "Can we buy any of the work that's in the exhibit?" to which Jack humbly replied, "yes."

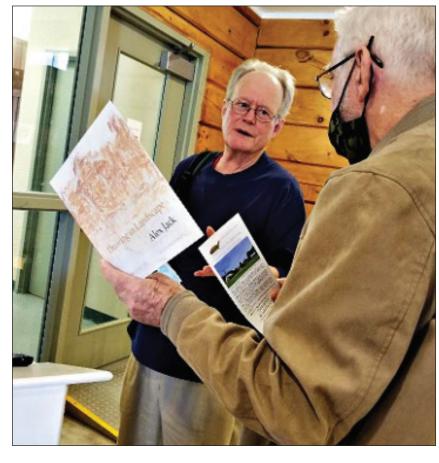
After staying in the Welch Room to interact with those who wanted a closer connection to him, Jack made his way to the main room of the gallery. Alone with his work, he walked slowly around the room surveying and remembering the challenges and breakthroughs of each piece.

"It's nice to see them all together," he said. "It's not very often that I get to see a big section of my work that spans 45 years in one location in a professional gallery setting. It's very gratifying to have the opportunity to see connections and developments, and the differences that have happened over the years, but also things that have stayed constant."

Asked if seeing the display gave him a sense of pride, Jack smiled and said, "Yes. Yes, it does."

By the time the last visitor had gone, three of Jack's works had been sold.

For more information regarding the artwork of Alex Jack or to contact him, please send a query to: gallery@mindenhills.ca.



Alex Jack speaks with a guest to his talk for his Drawing in Landscape exhibit. By the end of the talk, three of Jack's works had been sold.



Artist Alex Jack with his piece, Shoreline, part of his solo exhibit at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery.

Carnaryon Family Golf tees up for spring with new owners

Editor

Within 24 hours of Chris Near seeing the Carnarvon Family Golf listing on the PGA Canada website, he had driven from Orillia to see it. Now Near, along with his wife Kelsey, are the new owners of the recreational facility, which had previously been owned by the Kent family for almost 15 years.

"Like a lot of us, I've always had that entrepreneurial bug, and wondered if there was a way to combine my passion with a business – and those types of opportunities come few and far between," said Near. "This was that opportunity, so the minute it came up we jumped on it right away and went to have a look. Kudos to the Kent family, they've created something pretty special here, and we've just got to do it justice and continue it."

Near is a longstanding Class 'A' Member of the PGA of Canada – for almost two decades now – and has a deep history managing operations at private clubs across Ontario, including in Muskoka and Toronto. He became interested in golf, "probably by accident," he said when, at the age of 13, he went out on a par-3 course in Acton with his father.

"I immediately fell in love," he said. "That was the moment when it was like, OK, what's next, where do I need to go to school to make this a career, and where do I want to end up? Once I'd been up here a couple of times – for obvious reasons, with its beauty and atmosphere, there's no better place."

Near said his family has been welcomed by the community, even when he's just stopped into the hardware store, with many people expressing their happiness that the business has been purchased and will remain a golf facility.

"It's that small town feel that you only get in a small town,"

In their first year, Near said he and Kelsey plan to make very few changes at the site, which includes a driving range with both grass and mat hitting areas, an 18-hole mini-putt and a par-3 golf course.

"We're adding a retail presence to the property," said Near, noting the pro-shop is being renovated. "So one thing we found and have heard is, golf products, they're not easily accessible in Haliburton or Muskoka unless you're a member of a club, so we're adding that accessibility for our guests and consumers, and family and friends as well in the convenience of Haliburton.'

With Near being at the facility full-time, robust programs including private and semi-private golf lessons, instructional clinics and half-day junior golf camps for kids aged seven to 13 will be available.

Additionally, fitting days, in which vendors from TaylorMade, Callaway and Titleist are on site will be held.

Near said typically, most people go to golf merchandise shops and buy a set of clubs off the shelves, not realizing that major brands and vendors will fit products for the golfer as they're not intended to be "one size fits all."

"The clubs will be tailored – just like your pants to your length and your waist – your clubs will be tailored to you, vour stance and your swing," he said.

Glow-in-the-dark nights on the par-3 course, in which the course is lit with LED lights and guests can play until the early morning hours will be offered soon.

"We've done some in the past and they're a riot," said Near. "I'm hoping we can rally the community to come out

Near said golf has thrived during the pandemic, being an activity people could engage in outdoors.

"Golf has been one of the many beneficiaries of this chaos," he said. "Obviously I feel terrible for those others, but I'm grateful that we're in a business that was able to be that escape and got a little bit of a bump as a result of this mess. Golf has seen a 30 per cent increase across the country, and some of that is people that were playing or are playing more, but a lot of it is that people who weren't playing have been introduced to the game. Obviously now we have to do our best to keep them engaged and involved, and enjoying the

For more information about Carnarvon Family Golf, located at 9145 Highway 118, call 705-489-3473 or visit carnarvonfamilygolf.com.





Chris and Kelsey Near, the new owners of Carnarvon Family Golf, are looking forward to a fun season when they reopen the business this month. The facility will continue offering a driving range, 18-hole mini putt and par-3 golf course and will also offer fitting days and additional retail opportunities. /SUE TIFFIN Staff





Andrew, from left, and Julie Porter came to be part of the graduation ceremony with their son and Haliburton County Huskies captain Nathan Porter before the last regular season home game on Saturday, April 2 at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena. Porter was named the first captain in team history at the beginning of the season and finished with 19 points in his senior season. /Photos submitted by Alex Gallacher



Haliburton County Huskies administration (in blue) coach and general manager Ryan Ramsay, from left, league governor Bradley Townsend, and owner Paul Wilson helped to recognize the team's all-star representative goalie Christian Cicigoi, and team leading scorer Oliver Tarr for being selected to the OJHL All Star team, on Saturday, April 2 at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena in Minden. The All-Star game was scheduled to be held in Collingwood, but was canceled due to the pandemic.

Huskies split final two, look to playoffs

by ALEX GALLACHER Special to the Times

The Haliburton County Huskies completed their inaugural regular season with a win Saturday night against the Mississauga Chargers and a loss against the Wellington Dukes on Sunday, April 3. Finishing the season with 71 points, the Huskies first round playoff opponent will be the Trenton Golden Hawks.

The Huskies started the weekend on a high note. With the Chargers making their second and final regular season appearance in the S.G.Nesbitt Memorial Arena, the Huskies took the chance to say goodbye to the graduating players. Leaving the Huskies at the end of this season are Payton Schaly, who will be attending Plymouth State University in New Hampshire, Oliver Tarr who will be attending Canisius College in Buffalo, Simon Rose who is off to the University of Waterloo, and goalie Christian Cicigoi and Nate Porter whose plans have not yet been announced.

With Schaly out of the lineup due to illness, the Huskies put on a show in the final regular season home game. The Chargers lineup consisted of eight AP (affiliate) players, and one of them got the scoring started. Rookie AP Jack McLean buried a pass from Cole Lonsdale, stunning the Haliburton County faithful less than two minutes in. The Huskies got on board at 5:44 when Bryce Richardson buried a tape-to-tape pass from Tarr to tie the game.

Noah Van Vliet added his first career OJHL goal, becoming the 24th different Huskies' player on the current roster to score a goal this season. A brilliant pass from Patrick Saini, who returned to the lineup from injury, set Van Vliet up to tap in the goal. However, before the period was up the Chargers struck again. Streaking down the far wing, Evan Grobanopoulos beat Cicigoi on a fast shot that surprised even the shot taker himself.

With the teams tied up after the first period, the second period started off with a bang. Sam Solarino of the Huskies netted his 13th of the year, but the celebrations

were short lived. Less than 15 seconds later, Lonsdale deked out two Huskies' defenders and beat Cicigoi to tie the game up 3-3.

Before the period was up, the Huskies took the lead.

After Cam Kosurko staked a claim for goal of the year against Trenton a few games ago, Saini made his contribution to the conversation. Saini somehow found a smidge of daylight over the shoulder of Chargers' goalie Julian Molinaro to score at an almost impossible angle. Putting the dogs up by one at the end of the second, it was more Huskies dominance in the third.

Rose added another goal to his tally, while Saini added a short-handed goal on a beautiful wrap around attempt. In the end, the Huskies held on for the 6-3 win to salute the final sellout crowd of the regular season.

Following his first career goal, Van Vliet was beaming at finally getting the proverbial monkey off of his back. The Hamilton Bulldogs prospect was the last remaining Huskies mainstay who had not scored yet, so the relief was evident post game.

"It was a great pass from Patrick Saini,"

Van Vliet said. "I was lucky to finish it but it's nice to get the monkey off my back and get the first goal. It's a really good feeling and I'm really happy."

The final game of the Huskies season was a matinée in Wellington against the Dukes. With head coach Ryan Ramsay scratching most of the starting lineup in preparation for the playoffs, the Huskies lost 3-2, giving up a third period goal by David Campbell of the Dukes. Nick Athanasaskos and Will Gourgouvelis had the Huskies goals, both coming in the first period.

Following a loss to the Lindsay Muskies and a win over the Cobourg Cougars, the Trenton Golden Hawks locked up second place in the division and will meet the Haliburton County Huskies in round one.

Haliburton County won the season series over the Golden Hawks, but will have to start on the road as the three game series begins April 10.

Round one of the playoffs will be a best of three, while the next two rounds will be a best of five with the final round being a best of seven.



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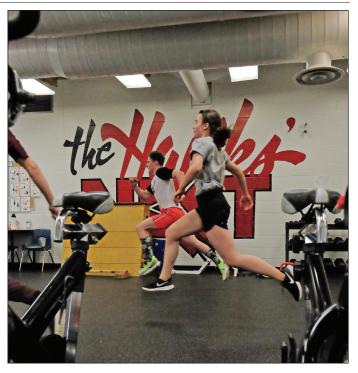
cory@uprightroofing.ca

uprightroofing.ca



Taking steps to compete again

With coach Karen Gervais, far right, leading a warm-up drill, Haliburton Highlands Secondary School senior Nick Phippen moves ahead of the rest of the track and field team, as part of training on Monday morning, April 4 in Haliburton. The team is preparing to compete this year in May. It's the first time for the event in two years since the pandemic. /DARREN LUM Staff



Athletes work through a warmup drill.

The track team is working towards competing at the Kawartha championship on Thursday, May 12 at TASS in Peterborough. The top eight qualify for the COSSA championship on Thursday, May 19 at TASS in Peterborough. The top five qualify for East Regionals, which is from Thursday, May 26 to Friday, May 27 at the Terry Fox Stadium in Ottawa. The top four will qualify for OFSAA, which is held from June 2 to 4 at York University in Toronto.



In first place, Debbie Walker, skip Gail Simon, Pauline Plooard and Marianne



In second place, from left, Janet Kidon, Jackie Conrathe, skip Winn Taylor, and Barb Millington (spare). Missing is Sandra Slauenwaite-Box.

Curling the day (and winter) away

The Wednesday daytime league of the Minden Curling Club had a fun session this winter and we look forward to returning to curling in the fall. The top two teams were only four points apart. Thank you to all the women who curled with us. /Photos submitted by Mickey Bonham



OJHL PLAYOFFS - Round 1

Game 1 Sunday April 10th AT Trenton - 4:30pm

Game 2 Wednesday April 13th vs Trenton - 7:00pm

Game 3 Thursday April 14th AT Trenton - 7:30pm*

WWW.HUSKIESHOCKEY.CA

Playoff tickets are now available for purchase 1 hour prior to puck drop at the door. Also available at **Dollo's Foodland or Haliburton Foodland.**

GENERATIONS

Spring into EarlyON!

With warmer days and melting snow, there are also changes coming to our EarlyON programs in the county. Following updated COVID-19 guidelines, we are able to welcome all families to our indoor locations proof of vaccination is no longer required. In addition, the wearing of masks is encouraged but not mandatory (EarlyON staff will continue to wear them at this time). As usual, families will be asked to do a health screening before arrival, and hand hygiene during the program will be essential.

We can also have more people each day, which will offer more opportunities for families to attend. If space allows, there may be the option of signing up for more than one morning. Please join us for play, learning and support.

EarlyON is fortunate to be able to run some extra activities due to a generous donation from the United Way. In April, two free book packages will be available for pick-up at Haliburton County library locations.

There will be an "I-Spy" book on April 8, with activity pages and supplies to make your own I-Spy bottle.

Later this month we will offer "Backyard Bugs," with ideas, information and a magnifying glass and giant bug to keep! These free kits are geared towards children ages two to six, one per family, while supplies last.

Our busy Fit Kids program at the Legion in Haliburton is winding down, but sessions will be offered at Archie Stouffer School on Fridays this month. Join us for active play, music, dancing and games. For those who want to get out with their babies and toddlers, stroller walks are in the works with Meghan Cox from Just Movement Fitness. We are excited to partner with Meghan in May and June to offer these weekly outings in Minden and Haliburton. Also in the works, Mindfulness Mondays, which will be relaxed mornings of fun activities that help children learn about their emotions and ways to cope. This parent-child interactive program will be offered in May in partnership with Point in Time, more details to follow.

As the nice weather approaches we all long to spend time outdoors, so we will be planning some special nature days where we can explore, play, and enjoy the company of other families once again - something we all want and need after the last two years!

To register for our in-person programs, or for more information, or Zoom schedules, please see our Facebook page or website. You can also call us, we love to connect with

Visit facebook.com/oeyc.haliburtonvictoriabrock, www.oeyc.ca or call 705-324-7900.

> Submitted by Julie Bosker EarlyON Child and Family Centre Program Co-ordinator



Lucas Stancati, 10 months, gives Marshall Smith a push, with some help from mom, Ashley Jauch.



Briar Clement, age 3, had a busy morning at the Fit Kids program at Archie Stouffer School in Minden.



The children show off their bears, after dancing to "Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, Turn Around.'



Cassie Thomas

sings Row Your Boat while

William, age 3, enjoys rocking

during the Fit

Kids program.



Lucas Stancati, 10 months, practises his climbing skills with mom Ashley Jauch close by.

Sudoku brought to you by

LISA MERCER **BROKER**

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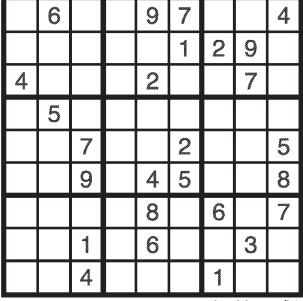


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Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 1

Misbehavin' in Minden

TE SHOULD BE glad of the discretion shown by today's local newspaper reporters, as it wasn't always so. During the 19th century, anonymous correspondents in our small villages sent gossipy columns titled News-Letters or



ADELE ESPINA History in the Highlands

Local Brevities to the newspapers in larger towns in Victoria County.

Most of the townstime, people were glad to see their name in print. Those convicted of crimes were less happy. In some instances

no names were mentioned, but it would be surprising if the locals did not recognize their neighbours in the articles. Here are a few of those intriguing submissions:

The Canadian Post, Lindsay - June 27, 1879

"Minden – Matrimonial Adventures – On Wednesday afternoon of last week, there was quite an unusual amount of excitement and gossip here, occasioned by the sight of a young couple in quest of a clergyman. In vain was the young man's search. The Methodist parson was at conference, the clergyman of St. Paul's was in a distant part of his mission-field, the Presbyterian student not being ordained could not officiate. In such an exigency of course there was the usual amount of friendly advice offered. It was suggested that the services of the student be procured to give the matrimonial noose a sort of preliminary hitch, and have the knot tied hard and fast when an ordained clergyman should arrive. This advice was not acted upon. Many and various were the comments of the idle loungers about town, the ladies apparently being most interested and expressing most commiseration. Not only did the ladies express their pity for the anxious couple, but they condoled as well as they could with the young man who was beguiled into arraying himself in dress coat, spotless linen and faultless white tie that he might act as best man. His hopes were blasted, for when the principal parties found that no minister was likely to come, they resolved to start out on a voyage of discovery in search of a person properly qualified to make them one. So the wedding was not here. The young people have returned from their peregrinations, and are apparently satisfied.'



Bobcaygeon Road in Minden village, early 1920s.

June 18 would have been the Wednesday of the previous week. Was our young couple Owen Wessels and Maggie Brohm, who were married on that day in Lutterworth? Or perhaps Alexander Lunan and Rose Taylor who were married on the next day in Stanhope?

Fenelon Falls Gazette - July 30, 1881

"Our leading villager had a most glorious drunk on Thursday last, and was, as is usual when under the influence of liquor, intensely abusive. He attacked Mr. James Walker, constable, inflicting slight injuries, and it is said that Mr. Walker intends to prosecute him. There is no doubt that something should be done, for very few have the moral courage to take the matter in hand, owing to the influence of the offender."

Could it have been Sam Hughes, sometimes known as Wobbling Sam? Hughes didn't live in the village, so then was it John Henry Delamere? Samuel Stanley Peck? William Gainer? It wasn't Dr. Curry, as he was noted in the same column to be paying a visit to his parents in Omemee.

Woodville Advocate - Aug. 5, 1887

"Information of the whereabouts of George Newton, of Minden, is wanted by his wife. It seems by her statement, published in another column, George has a bad memory, in fact, although he has a wife and four children in Minden, he unblushingly passes himself off on strangers as a single man. Other papers are requested to give George a free advertisement."

No record has yet been found of a George Newton who lived in Minden around this time. Did the Woodville newspaper print an incorrect name? Was there a George in

Minden with a bad memory, an angry wife, and four children?

The Watchman, Lindsay - Aug. 17, 1893

"Minden - On A Hoot - On Thursday night of last week two young men of this place, whose names we shall with-hold for the present had a 'roaring' time and, according to their way of it – painted the town red, white and blue. Yesterday (Monday) they were in the Police Court and the Magistrate fined them five dollars each and costs; amounting in all to fifteen dollars, at the same time intimating that another 'painting' escapade of this character would cost them a month at the 'stone pile' in Lindsay."

Any descendants of these two unidentified young fellows are welcome to claim them as their grandfathers. The local candidates for the identities of these troublemakers would have been numerous!

And finally - Occasionally, there was nothing worth mentioning on the busy Minden court docket, and that was reported, too.

The Watchman, Lindsay – Apr 30, 1896

"Minden - His Honour Judge Dean presided at the sitting of the First Division Court here Thursday. There was an unusual amount of cases disposed of but none of special interest to the public."

SUDOKU SOLUTION



1	6	2	8	9	7	3	5	4
5	7	8	4	3	1	2	9	6
4	9	3	5	2	6	8	7	1
2	5	6	9	7	8	4	1	3
8	4	7	3	1	2	9	6	5
3	1	9	6	4	5	7	2	8
9	2	5	1	8	3	6	4	7
7	8	1	2	6	4	5	3	9
6	3	4	7	5	9	1	8	2

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AROUND THE COUNTY TOWN



All jazzed up

The intermediate jazz dance team from Haliburton Dance Academy celebrated their first competition since 2019 at a Dance Canada event held in Collingwood last weekend, earning high gold and a second place. Pictured: Lilly Casey, Rayah Garbutt, Jordyn Hurd, Leah Johnston, MacKenzie Milburn, Skye Upton and Isabella Valentini. /Photo submitted by Sarah Garbutt

To see your loved ones on this page, send photos to sue@haliburtonpress.com



PUBLIC NOTICE

Applicant: Chalmers Lot 2, Concession 5, Kushog Lake Geographic Township of Stanhope

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Algonquin Highlands has declared part of the original shore road allowance in front of Lot 2, Concession 5, Kushog Lake, in the geographic Township of Stanhope, in the Township of Algonquin Highlands, County of Haliburton, to be surplus

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Municipal Corporation of the Township of Algonquin Highlands proposes to enact a By-Law to stop-up, close and convey to the abutting property owner(s) that part of the original shore road allowance in front of Lot 2, Concession 5, described as all and singular that certain parcel or tract of land and premises situate, lying and being in the Geographic Township of Stanhope, in the County of Haliburton and being composed of the following:

FIRSTLY:

THAT part of the original shore road allowance in front of Lot 2. Concession 5. described as Part 1 on a Plan deposited in the Registry Office for the Registry Division of Haliburton County as Plan 19R-10609.

The proposed By-Law will come before the said Council for consideration at its regular meeting at the Algonquin Highlands Municipal Office, 1123 North Shore Road, on the 21st day of April, 2022 and at that time, the Council will hear any person or by his/her counsel, solicitor or agent any person who claims that his/her land will be prejudicially affected and who applies to be heard. Any person who wishes to be heard by Council regarding this proposed closure must contact the Clerk to schedule a delegation with Council.

Dated: April 6th, 2022

Sean O'Callaghan

Planner Township of Algonquin Highlands 1123 North Shore Rd. Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1J1 Tel: (705) 489-2379

Email: socallaghan@algonquinhighlands.ca



Back to the dance floor

Dancers with Haliburton Dance Academy, some seen here, celebrated their first competition since 2019 at a Dance Canada event held in Collingwood last weekend. /Photo submitted by Sarah Garbutt



Local Landmark of the month

The Sawyer is one of many installations in the Haliburton Highlands commemorating the importance of the logging industry and the settlement and economic development of this area. Measuring 14 feet tall, the Sawyer was created by Andy Hillo, a prolific and skilled multi-media artist with several other Local Landmarks in our collection. It is one of the most unique photo-ops in the Haliburton Highlands, designed specifically so that a visitor can pose as if they are holding the other end of the huge crosscut saw that is halfway through a large log.

A visit to the Sawyer is just one reason to explore the Stanhope area. There are several hiking trails in the area as well as a lovely park and playground with a shaded picnic area.

This feature is part of a local landmark series, featuring a different historic or cultural landmark from within the county, brought to you by the Haliburton Highlands tourism team. Follow Haliburton Highlands on Instagram or Facebook to see local landmark features from throughout the county.





Good timing

Between 4 a.m. and 5 a.m., a tree cam captured visitors to the backyard of a Bobcaygeon Road home - a wolf at 4:02 and then at 4:54, a small group of deer./Photos submitted by Guenter Horst











Are you a local business or professional? If you are not yet a member of the chamber, consider joining. We support local businesses and not-forprofit organizations and being a chamber member comes with a whole host of benefits!

If you would like more information about the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce or how to become a member please check out our website at:

www.haliburtonchamber.com

or send an email to:

admin@haliburtonchamber.com

Check out our business directory for local businesses you can support in our community!





705-313-5579 chris@nftctelecom.com NFTCTelecom.com

Chamber Members

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assifieds Minden Times

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- Pick up supplies in Toronto (or outside of Minden/Haliburton) as needed.
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To protect the health and safety of our clients and employees, we have modified our normal operating policies in response to COVID-19. All Staff are required to be Two Dose Vaccinated against Covid 19 before their contract begins.

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The Sous Chef position will be an integral part of the on-site staff team in the Food Hub. This role will include a wide range of tasks in our commercial kitchen including working at the lunch counter, preparing food, baking, canning soups, making preserves, providing customer service, catering, etc. This is a full-time, year-round position, working directly with the Chef. \$18/hr, 40hrs/week.

Resumes can be submitted to ashley@abbeygardens.ca

Kitchen Assistant/Baker

The Kitchen Support/Baking position will be an integral part of the on-site staff team in the Food Hub. This role will primarily support the Chef and Sous Chef in kitchen work, with a special focus on restocking the Garden Café.

\$16/hr Preference for full time work during the summer and part time year round, but flexible.

Resumes can be submitted to ashley@abbeygardens.ca

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400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



On behalf of Ontario's Highlands Tourism Organization (OHTO), Westridge HR is currently hiring a Membership Development Coordinator.

About Ontario's Highlands Tourism Organization (OHTO): OHTO is a not-for-profit organization funded by the Ministry of Heritage Sport Tourism and Culture Industries to assist with strengthening communities in our region through tourism. Our region is the second-largest in Ontario and includes the County of Haliburton, Renfrew County, Lanark County, and portions of Frontenac County, Lennox and Addington, and Hastings County.

In the role of Membership Development Coordinator, you will increase member relations with OHTO by initiating outreach opportunities with prospective and current members, manage the current membership database, and develop qualified prospective stakeholders to recruit.

The ideal candidate is self-directed and thrives in an entrepreneurial and fast-paced environment. If you have expertise in member relations and solid sales and marketing skills, this dynamic position presents an opportunity for you to unleash your potential. Your contribution will strengthen OHTO's corporate brand, increase engagement in our initiatives, and help grow our membership with tourism stakeholders across the region.

Start Date: May 2022 Location: Beachburg, Ontario

Job Type: Remote, Full-Time, one year contract

Compensation: Commensurate on experience, plus health benefits

In this role, you will:

- Develop and execute a membership recruitment plan in collaboration with the Industry Support Coordinator
- · Perform outreach to current, new, and potential members of OHTO, acting as the first point of contact for the organization
- Perform administrative duties to manage and update the current membership database • Develop a comprehensive list of qualified prospective tourism stakeholders to recruit as new
- members and maintain member status for nurturing growth within OHTO programming • Generate and convert stakeholder leads to appropriate staff for funding support, as well as identify any barriers or challenges for accessing OHTO's programs
- · Identify events and networking opportunities to attend for the purposes of membership
- growth • Represent OHTO in the community to strengthen its network and relationships across the
- · Support social media activities targeted to OHTO industry

You are an ideal candidate if you possess:

- Graduate or post-graduate of marketing, sales management, public relations program
- 2-3 years experience in sales and customer relations
- Experience with lead generation and qualifying prospects
- Strong project management skills with experience in a self-guided environment • Exceptional written and communication skills, coupled with active listening skills
- Strong organization, problem-solving, interpersonal skills, and attention to detail
- Digital literacy is required; particularly in Microsoft Office Suite, Mailchimp, Facebook, Twitter,Instagram.
- Bilingualism considered an asset
- Valid driver's license and immediate, accessible transportation

Although this is a remote position, the ideal candidate would reside within the geographic boundaries known as Ontario's Highlands and have a strong understanding of this region's

How to Apply:

If you are a self-starter with a proven track record in sales and business development, we would love to hear from you! Please apply by April 14th 11:59pm by sending your resume via email with the subject line OHTO Membership Development Coordinator to: careers@westridgehr. com. We thank all applicants for their interest, but only those advancing through the selection process will be contacted.

Westridge HR, along with our client, are equal opportunity employers committed to building a diverse workforce. We believe in fostering an inclusive, equitable, and accessible environment that brings people together to realize their full potential. We are committed to compliance with all applicable legislation, including providing accommodation for applicants with disabilities. Please advise us at any point during the recruitment and selection process if you require accommodation.



LOOKING FOR A REWARDING CAREER?

We are recruiting part-time Direct Support Professionals to work in our Community Homes in Peterborough, Lindsay & Haliburton

POSITIONS: Permanent Part-time Support Worker, Casual Part-time Support Worker

RESPONSIBILITIES: Support Workers carry out all duties in accordance with established routines of the home or program location. You will be responsible for providing support to persons living with a developmental disability to live, learn, work and participate as a member of the community. You will:

- Carry out regularly assigned / prescribed duties related to the provision of supports.
- Support assessment of the day-to-day needs of people served, implementation of life plans and monitoring the achievement of personal goals and outcomes.
- Provide appropriate personal / physical care, including medication administration and crisis response.
- Liaise with friends and family to address needs of person supported and to share information.
- Support life skills training one-to-one and in groups and provide emotional support.
- Perform housing support duties to maintain a safe, clean and secure environment.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Minimum one-year post-secondary education in a Human Services (i.e., PSW, etc.); 2-year college diploma/degree in Developmental Service Worker (DSW) or related Human Services preferred.
- Commitment and adherence to CLTH's Covid-19 vaccination policy requirements.
- Valid Emergency First Aid certificate required.
- Valid Non-Violent Crisis Intervention certification required.
- Must be flexible, able to workdays, evenings, awake overnight shifts, weekdays, weekends, holidays.
- Valid Class G Driver's License and Acceptable Driver's Abstract preferred. Those with a G1 or G2 license may be considered as well.
- Proof of valid vehicle insurance including passenger coverage. Access to reliable vehicle is preferred.
- Criminal Reference Check and Vulnerable Sector Screening.
- Relevant experience with people living with developmental disability and their families.
- Computer literacy (Microsoft office, e-mail, internet).

If you have most, but not all the above prerequisites, please still consider applying. If you are willing to work toward meeting our requirements, we are willing to consider working with you.

SALARY: Hourly Wage Range \$21.90 to \$22.36

TO APPLY: Email up-to-date resume and cover letter to recruitment@clth.ca, or go to CLTH.ca/apply.

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400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



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ANNOUNCEMENTS



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Online marketing campaigns are a must in 2022.

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Number 1461



Preserve Wildlife Party at UCKCLIFE

Monday, February 25, 1991



Under the watchful eye of Doug Mitchell, Tom Regina demonstrates his culinary expertise at the grill during the high school Spirit Week pancake breakfast Friday morning. The teachers left their books and chalk in the classrooms to rustle up a feast of pancakes and sausages for the students.

Community Centre expansion gets boost from government

by Jay Kerr-Wilson

The expansion of the Minden Community Centre can begin now that the province has kicked in \$143,000.

In Lindsay last Wednesday, tourism and recreation ministry spokesman Dan Waters announced the grant as part of a \$744,577 windfall to 16 projects in Victoria and Haliburton counties.

Minden councillor Lewis Stevens said the provincial money will be added to the Rotary Club's \$100,000 donation and the township's share to meet the costs of

The township is planning to build an addition to the community centre which will the increase the number of people the facility can accommodate. The expansion will cost about \$300,000 and Stevens said the township will raise money to cover the cost of additional work and added features.

"Everything's in place," said Stevens. "I don't see any reason why we can't get the work underway by

community centre is only part of the township's plans for the building. They also hope to expand the arena portion of the facility and build new dressing rooms.

Although the provincial funding applies only to the community centre and no money was allocated to the arena, Stevens said the arena expansion plans aren't centre said Stevens.

"We'll get the community centre out of the way first," he said. "We'll take things as they come.

The Recreation Committee will be setting up an ad hoc building committee and an ad hoc fund raising committee to oversee the work on the community

County votes to defer property reassessment

by Jay Kerr-Wilson

County council has voted to defer immediate implementation of market value reassessment, but made it clear that delaying the proposal does not mean it will be abandoned.

"When you see the reaction, it's clear we have to do something to explain this thing," Bicroft Reeve Bill Howe said in support of the resolution to defer. "It scares everybody."

Warden Carol Puffer said The expansion of the the county will begin a

public information campaign during the summer to discuss the proposed reassessment with residents and inform them about the resulting changes.

Sherborne Reeve Don Shortreed said while it's important to defer the reassessment in order to allow for more public discussion, he reminded council of the inequalities in the present property tax system.

"There are people out there paying the wrong

(more on page 3)

Lutterworth pitches in to help townhouse project

by Susan Grober

The project for a 22-unit townhouse in Minden Village has overcome another hurdle.

Sponsored by the Staanworth Non-Profit Housing Corporation, the townhouses are to be built on a parcel of property owned by Mabel Brannigan and located just off Prince Street ar Highway 35.

tives Elizabeth Wright and Bob Beeney approached Lutterworth Council at its meeting Thursday night, and asked the township to help expediate the matter.

'We were hoping to get people in there by this fall," said Wright.

Because municipalities are exempt from the severance application process, the corporation wants to save time and avoid this. process by conveying property to the townships of Lutterworth and Stanhope.

"Lutterworth would hold the property until the road is brought up to standard," said Wright. Then the property will be conveyed back to Staanworth.

All of council agreed to the request, and a resolution uals.

was passed.

"I think anything is great to help get her rolling," said Councillor Bill Valentine.

Beeney said the \$2.5 million project will create fully self-contained units, each with four appliances and a garage. The plan is for 20 non-profit townhouses, with two houses for handicapped individ-

Wright said the townhouses won't necessarily be for senior citizens. "Rent will be geared to income," she said. "It's based strictly on need."

The project is the result of the 1988 family housing survey conducted by the Haliburton County Social Action Committee, which indicated a need for lowcost accommodation in the

Staanworth will work together with the social action committee on tenant selection, and the buildings will be owned and maintained by Staanworth.

The Ministry of Housing has already approved the 20 housing units. If the project can be built for less than ministry-approved costs, then Staanworth will request approval of two additional units.

In this week's column, history teacher Frank Wallace talks about the inconsistency with which English Canada has dealt with Quebec. He says Quebec's demands, as spelled out in the Meech Lake Accord, should be accepted

See page 2

iccess on ice

For the seventh time in the last 10 years. Minden skaters have captured the Club Trophy at the Kawarth Highlands Interclub competition as 26 local skaters

See page 12

Not fit to be tied

Lutterworth council has decided it doesn't want to display one of the plywood yellow ribbons being distributed by the Minden Legion as a way to honour Canadian Forces in the Gulf war.

See page 3

egacy.

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he focused on building relationships. That remains our objective to this day. Our clients typically know us by name, call us directly or personally visit our office to discuss their needs. We thank them for the trust they place in us. For those who don't know us, we welcome your inquiry.

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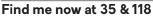


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